Chapter 2
Salt-Grilled Saury with Faux-Matsutake Rice

WAAH!

HAH!

Octopus Hold

THEN WHY NOT GO TO THE PARK AND DO GYMNASTICS ON THE MONKEY BARS?
I'VE GOTTA BURN OFF THESE CALORIES!
MY APPETITE'S BACK WITH A VENGEANCE THIS FALL, AND LATELY I FEEL LIKE I'VE BEEN PUTTING ON WEIGHT.
Woah, a perfect bridge! Just like Karl Gotch's.
'CAUSE I CAN'T DO GYMNASTICS.
LOOKS LIKE THE STRETCHING TECHNIQUES HAVEN'T BEEN VERY EFFECTIVE.
YOUR BODY'S SOFT JUST LIKE A GIRL'S.
BUT YOU, SHINOBU.
And now she's posing like the first Tiger Mask.
DOES HE WANT ME TO CHOP HIM INSTEAD? BUT WAIT, HOW WOULD THAT HELP HIM TRAIN?
I wish she'd stop trying to train me by putting me in holds all the time.

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HEY, DIDN'T ICHIKAWA KYOKO LOOK AT ME JUST NOW?
I WISH I COULD FIND SOME STURDY-LOOKING GUY TO TRY OUT MY WRESTLING MOVES ON.
IT'S ALL IN YOUR HEAD, IDIOT.
BUT I DON'T KNOW ANY OF THE GUYS HERE WELL ENOUGH TO ASK THEM...
EITHER WAY, ICHIKAWA KYOKO DEFINITELY IS CUTE
I'M GLAD YOU'RE IN THE SAME CLASS AS HER, MAN
ラビ
AS A FIRST YEAR, SHE WAS ONE OF THE FOUR HEAVENLY BEAUTIES OF NUKUI HIGH

THE WAY SHE ACTS SO COLD AND ALOOF MAKES HER UNAPP-ROACHABLE, BUT...
THAT CHEST!
AND THOSE CALVES!
SHE'S OUT OF THIS WORLD!
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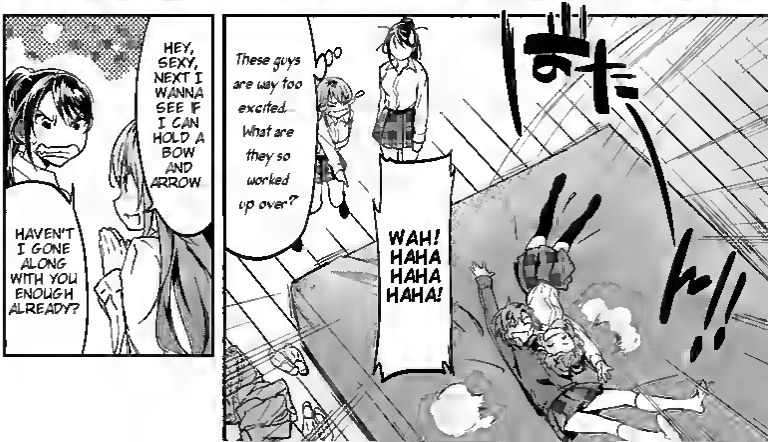
AND IF I GET TO KNOW HER WELL ENOUGH IN CLASS, THEN MAYBE ME AND KYOKO CAN
DON'T SAY STUFF THAT'LL BREAK MY HEART, DUDE.
MOVE.
O-OH

THE WAY HER UNIFORM CAN'T REALLY HIDE IT ALL, SHE'S LIKE LAURA CROFT! IT'S TOO MUCH TO HANDLE!
ANOTHER UNAPPROACHABLE BEAUTY WITH A FIERCE EXPRESSION
ANOTHER OF THE FOUR HEAVENLY BEAUTIES, SHE WEARS GLASSES TO HIDE HER TRUE BEAUTY FROM ALL BUT A SELECT FEW.
TAKAGI YOKO
AND HER HARD EXPRESSION GOT ALL SILLY, LIKE SHE'S TOTALLY OKAY WITH IT.
TAKAGI YOKO'S GOT A NICKNAME LIKE 'SEXY'?
YO, SEXY!
MORNING!
...DOWN TO EARTH FRIENDS ARE HARD TO COME BY
WHAT'S UP, KYOKO? WHY'RE YOU STARING AT PEOPLE?
I WONDER WHAT THOSE TWO CUTIES ARE TALKING ABOUT.
YEAH.
HAH? WHAT'S THIS, ALL OF A SUDDEN?
LET ME TRY OUT SOME WRESTLING MOVES ON YOU, SEXY!

HU-
AAAAAAA!!!
Frankensteiner

HA-
OOOHH!
German Suplex Hold
H-HEY, MY PANTIES!
HAHAHA, WERE THEY SHOWING? AWESOME~!
AMAZING! LET ME TRY NEXT!
YOU'RE SURPRISINGLY STIFF, SEXY I BET SOME STRETCHING WOULD HELP YOU OUT A LOT.
WHEN YOU SAID 'WRESTLING MOVES' I THOUGHT YOU MEANT SOMETHING A LITTLE SIMPLER!
WHEN WE WERE IN MIDDLE SCHOOL, KYOKO PRACTICED HER FRANKENSTEINER AND GERMAN SUPLEX TO PERFECTION.
THEY'RE AT A REALLY HIGH LEVEL.

HEY, KURIKO! I CAN SEE YOUR PANTIES!
HOOW~? SHE'S TOTALLY VERTICAL!
A WRESTLER NEVER WEARS JUST ONE PAIR OF PANTIES
DON'T FREAK OUT, SEXY
HUH? AWE-SOME, RIGHT?
AHAHAHA! AHAHAHA!
OH, YOU WANT TO, KURIKO? ALL RIGHT, LET'S GO!
IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE WE TRIED THAT MOVE, BOYA!
?
Super High Hold
Brainbuster
WITH HOW LIGHT KURIKO IS, YOU COULD DO WHATEVER THROW YOU WANTED ON HER
WOOOOAH! YOU GUYS ARE INCREDIBLE!


HEY, SEXY, NEXT I WANNA SEE IF I CAN HOLD A BOW AND ARROW
HAVEN'T I GONE ALONG WITH YOU ENOUGH ALREADY?
These guys are way too excited... What are they so worked up over?
WAH! HAHA HAHA HAHA!
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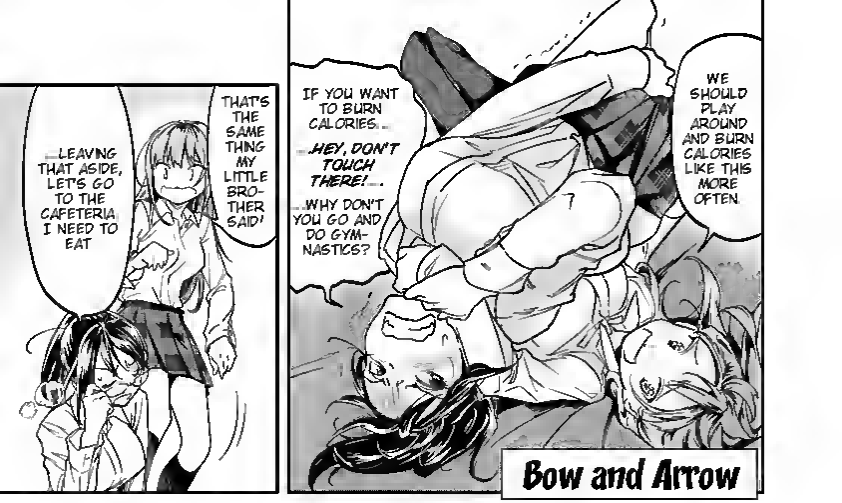
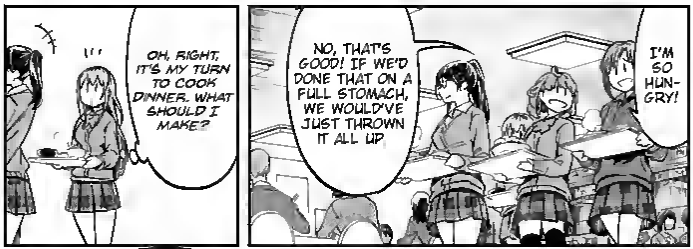
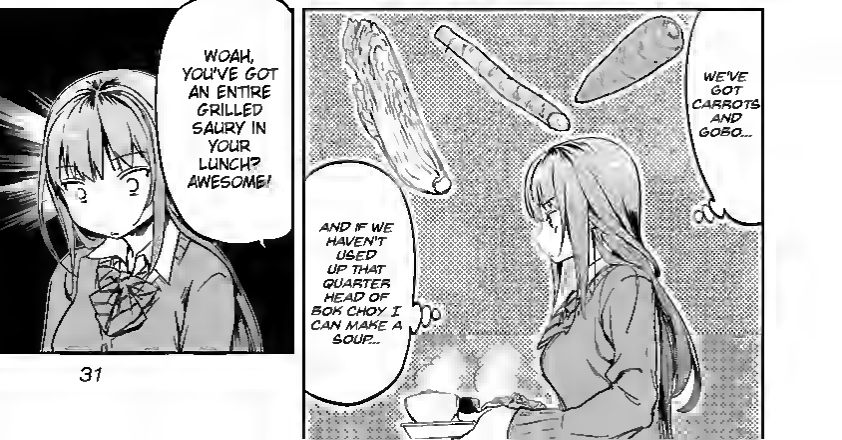

WE SHOULD PLAY AROUND AND BURN CALORIES LIKE THIS MORE OFTEN.
IF YOU WANT TO BURN CALORIES...
...HEY, DON'T TOUCH THERE!...
...WHY DON'T YOU GO AND DO GYMNASTICS?
Bow and Arrow
THAT'S THE SAME THING MY LITTLE BROTHER SAID!
...LEAVING THAT ASIDE, LET'S GO TO THE CAFETERIA. I NEED TO EAT

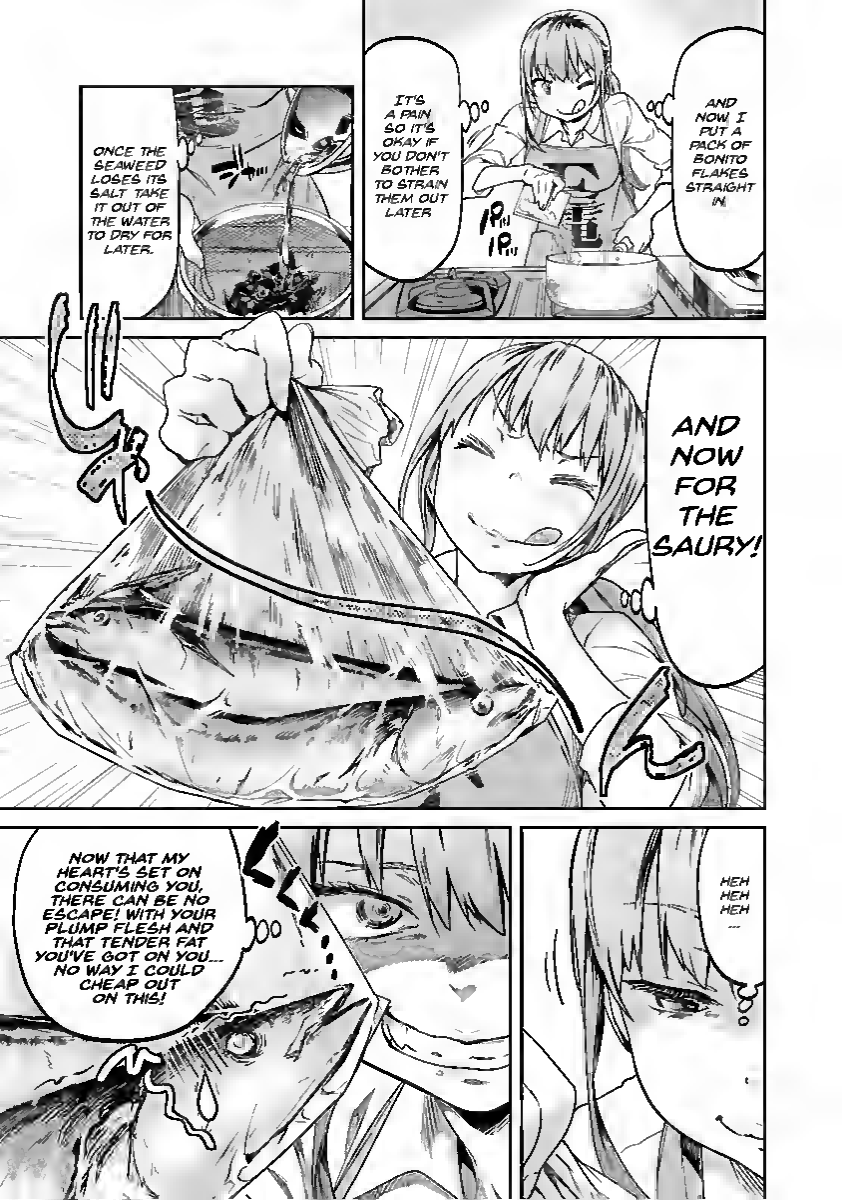

I'M SO HUNGRY!
NO, THAT'S GOOD! IF WE'D DONE THAT ON A FULL STOMACH, WE WOULD'VE JUST THROWN IT ALL UP.
OH, RIGHT, IT'S MY TURN TO COOK DINNER. WHAT SHOULD I MAKE?


WOAH, YOU'VE GOT AN ENTIRE GRILLED SAURY IN YOUR LUNCH? AWESOME!
WE'VE GOT CARROTS AND GOBO...
AND IF WE HAVEN'T USED UP THAT QUARTER HEAD OF BOK CHOY I CAN MAKE A SOUP...

SERIOUSLY, ALL YOU HAVE IS SAURY AND PICKLED PLUM?
HEY, SHUT UP!
.....!
GULP
A FALL SAURY ...
EH?
IT'S SAURY!
WHAT'S WITH HER?
HEY, KYOKO, AREN'T YOU COMING TO MISTER DONUT WITH US?

I'M HOME!
I'M GOING TO COOK RICE WITH SOME FIXINGS IN IT TODAY.
I'M STARTING IT NOW, SO IT'LL JUST BE A BIT, OKAY?
RIGHT.
TAKE A THIRD OF A CARROT AND A THIRD OF THE GOBO AND CHOP THEM UP FINELY.
CUT A PACK OF ERYNGII MUSHROOMS INTO THIN SLICES
IF YOU USE SHIMEJI INSTEAD, CUT THE STEM INTO LARGE PIECES AND REMOVE THE REST.
IF YOU DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME, FRIED TOFU WORKS TOO AS LONG AS YOU DON'T LET THE OIL DRAIN OFF
OKAY THESE ARE DONE
I'M HUNGRY, SO I'M PUTTING IN THREE CUPS OF RICE WITH THE USUAL AMOUNT OF WATER.
THE SOUP BASE WE HAVE IS THE UNSWEET KIND, SO WE CAN USE IT TO MAKE THIS KIND OF RICE OR SUKIYAKI.
I'LL PUT IN ENOUGH TO MAKE IT KINDA STRONG.

AND I PUT ALL THE INGREDIENTS ON TOP OF THE RICE AND START THE COOKER.
NOW TO MAKE SOME MISO SOUP WITH BOK CHOY AND SEA-WEED
WASH THE SEAWEED OFF AND THEN TOSS IT INTO A BOWL OF WATER TO MAKE SURE ALL THE SALT GETS OUT.
CHOP THE BOK CHOY INTO ROUGH PIECES AND PUT THEM IN WATER OVER HEAT UNTIL THEY BECOME TENDER.


AND NOW I PUT A PACK OF BONITO FLAKES STRAIGHT IN.
IT'S A PAIN SO IT'S OKAY IF YOU DON'T BOTHER TO STRAIN THEM OUT LATER
IPH IPH
ONCE THE SEAWEED LOSES ITS SALT TAKE IT OUT OF THE WATER TO DRY FOR LATER.
AND NOW FOR THE SAURY!
NOW THAT MY HEART'S SET ON CONSUMING YOU, THERE CAN BE NO ESCAPE! WITH YOUR PLUMP FLESH AND THAT TENDER FAT YOU'VE GOT ON YOU... NO WAY I COULD CHEAP OUT ON THIS!
HEH HEH HEH...

THE TIP OF THE DAIKON IS JUST A BIT SPICY I LOVE IT!
STARTING FROM THE TIP PEEL OFF THE FIRST THIRD OF IT IN THE GRATER.
OKAY STILL 15 MINUTES LEFT ON THE RICE.
I'LL GO AHEAD AND GRATE THE DAIKON.
BUT
BEF-ORE
THAT
ONCE THEY'RE WASHED AND DRIED, SPRIN-KLE ON A BIT OF SALT, AND GRILL-OH!
TEN MINU-TES LEFT.
MAKE SURE YOU ONLY PUSH OUT A BIT OF THE JUICE.
IF YOU PRESS TOO MUCH, THOUGH, IT'LL DRY OUT AND WON'T TASTE AS GOOD, SO BE CAREFUL.
POUR THE DAIKON INTO A STRAINER AND USE YOUR FIST TO PRESS THE JUICE OUT.
NOPE! CAN'T BURN THEM!
tee hee!
IT'S YOUR TURN, SAURY! MAY YOUR BODIES ROAST IN THE SCORCHING FLAMES OF HELL!!

THE MISO SOUP'S DONE!
WHEN IT STARTS TO BOIL PUT IN THE SEAWEED AND STOP HEATING IT.
START THE FIRE AGAIN ...
OH, THE BOK CHOY'S DONE. I'LL TURN OFF THE HEAT AND DROP IN THE MISO PASTE.
AND THE SAURY'S GRILLED!
OF COURSE THE RICE WON'T TASTE ANY GOOD IF IT'S COLD, EITHER.
IT'S IMPORTANT TO TAKE THIS RICE OFF OF THE HEAT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. IF YOU LEAVE IT IN TOO LONG BY MISTAKE, IT'LL SPOIL
THE RICE IS DONE TOO!

Salt-Grilled Saury and Grated Daikon with Soy Sauce and Lemon Juice
PUT ON AS MUCH LEMON JUICE AS YOU WANT.
OH, IT'S SO FALL-LIKE!
HUH? YOU MADE THREE WHOLE CUPS OF THIS RICE? THERE'S ONLY TWO OF US, YOU KNOW!
NEVER UNDER-ESTIMATE A HIGH SCHOOL GIRL'S APPETITE!
Eryngii-Based Faux-Matsutake Rice
Bok Choy and Seaweed Miso Soup
I DIDN'T PUT IN ANY MATSUTAKE BROTH THIS TIME, SO IT WON'T SMELL LIKE THEM, BUT...
YEAH, GO AHEAD
Kyoko's got no sense of economy at all
Thanks for the food.
Wasn't she telling me earlier that she didn't use up that much money?

.....
'AMBIANCE' EH? IS THAT ANOTHER ONE OF THOSE WORDS YOU JUST LEARNED IN SCHOOL?
THE FLAVOR REALLY ADDS A FALL-LIKE AMBIANCE TO THE MEAL, DOESN'T IT?
WHO CARES HOW IT SMELLS? IT'S DELICIOUS!
AH, THIS SAURY IS AMAZING! IT'S GOT SO MUCH FAT ON IT!
YEAH, IT JUST MELTS IN YOUR MOUTH
おーい

THE RICE WOULD BE A MEAL ON ITS OWN, BUT HAVING IT WITH GRILLED FISH IS A LUXURY, ISN'T IT?
I HEAR THERE ARE SOME FAMILIES WHO DON'T EVEN EAT THE GUTS OF THE FISH.
WHAT A WASTE! THE WAY THE GUTS ARE A BIT BITTER REALLY BRINGS OUT THE FLAVOR OF THE MEAT.
OH? DOESN'T 'BIT BITTER' ALSO HAVE A NICE AMBIANCE TO IT?
DID YOU COME UP WITH THAT ONE YOURSELF? HERE, LET ME SEE IF I CAN MAKE SOME UP.
WELL, ALLITERATION IS GOOD TO USE WHEN YOU'RE SPEAKING BECAUSE IT HELPS PEOPLE TO REMEMBER THINGS. THAT'S WHAT MY HOMEROOM TEACHER, KOYASU-SENSEI SAID. SO MAYBE SOMETHING LIKE...
A 'TIDY TABLE'! OR MAYBE SOMEONE'S 'SMART AND STYLISH'
A 'CHIC SHOP'!
HMM...
'TERRIBLE TROUBLE'
'REALLY RUDE'
A 'CHEEKY CHILD'
WHY ARE ALL YOUR EXAMPLES SO NEGATIVE...?
TIME FOR SECONDS ~♪
YOU'VE ALREADY HAD FOUR BOWLS! IF YOU EAT ANY MORE, YOU REALLY WILL LOOK LIKE TIGER MASK!

YOU'RE 'GONNA GAIN WEIGHT'!
AND YOU'RE 'AWFULLY ANNOYING'!!
HEY, I'M ABOUT TO TURN OUT THE LIGHTS, GET OFF YOUR COMP-UTER
GO TO BED
I'M GONNA LOOK LIKE TIGER MASK, HUH? WELL, WHAT IF I JUST ATE A CASTELLA EVERY DAY? WHAT WOULD YOU DO THEN?
OH, I BET THAT WOULD HELP OUT MY PROSPECTS AS A PRO WRESTLER, TOO! EVERYONE WOULD LOOK AT ME AND THINK I WAS SUPER STRONG, RIGHT~?
She's still stuck on this

I CAN'T EVEN IMAGINE IT... CAN YOU HAVE A GIRL WRESTLER WHO'S BEAUTIFUL AND STRONG?
I DON'T WANT TO SEE KYOKO GO SOMEWHERE SHE'LL GET BEAT UP...
BUT IF THERE WAS A GIRL WRESTLER WITH SUCH A PRETTY FACE, ALL THE BAD GUY WRESTLERS WOULD HATE HER AND ALWAYS TRY TO BEAT HER UP REALLY BAD...
SHI~ NO~ BU~
I ended up getting really off track just now. I didn't say any of that out loud, did I...?
HA-
TIME FOR YOUR PUNISHMENT FROM YOUR BEAUTIFUL SISTER~
I DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING! I DIDN'T!!
DID I JUST HEAR YOU SAY THAT I WAS PRETTY AND BEAUTIFUL~?
HEH HEH HEH HEH~
HEY- DON'T COME OVER ON MY SIDE OF THE FUTON! GO TO BED ALREADY! GO TO BED!!

姉のおなかをふくらませるのは僕

It is me to fill the stomach of my sister

Ane no Onaka wo Fukuramaseru no wa Boku

Translation and Editing: Xthen